(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE *OF* THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Government does not regulate the air fares and airlines are free to determine the same in accordance with their commercial judgement and market forces.

Concessions in Air Fares to passengers

2191. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some private carriers are offering competitvely low fares for tickets booked in advance;

(b) whether the national air carriers will also extend such concessions to attract passengers;

(c) whether it is a fact that the occupancy rate has come down in national air carriers recently; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines is already offering APEX fares, an advance purchase scheme on specified domestic sectors.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Air services from Madhya Pradesh to Southern States

†2192. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to provide air services from Madhya Pradesh to South India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.